



WILSON
TAKARA
PRIANTO

POISON IVY™

BATMAN:
CAUGHT
IN THE
VINES



THE SECRET ORIGIN OF
**PAMELA
ISLEY!** PART
3 OF 3

13+
TEEN

DAWN OF
DC

THE MAN OF STEEL AND THE MAIN MAN DEFEND METROPOLIS FROM BRAINIAC'S LOBO ARMY!

HOUSE OF BRAINIAC

WRITTEN BY
JOSHUA WILLIAMSON
ART AND COVERS BY
RAFA SANDOVAL

A THREE-MONTH
CROSSOVER BETWEEN

SUPERMAN
ACTION
COMICS
&
SUPERMAN

STARTING IN APRIL



HOUSE OF BRAINIAC



THE INVASION BEGINS IN APRIL!

PART 1:
ACTION COMICS #1064

TIE-IN:
GREEN LANTERN #10

PART 2:
SUPERMAN #13

TIE-IN:
POWER GIRL #8

PART 2.5:
*SUPERMAN: HOUSE OF
BRAINIAC SPECIAL*



DC COMICS PRESENTS

POISON IVY

CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE

Writer

G. WILLOW WILSON

Colors

MARCIO TAKARA

ARIF PRIANTO

HASSAN OTSMANE-ELHAOU

Cover

JESSICA FONG

Variant covers

DAVID NAKAYAMA

BABS TARR

1:25 Variant cover

BILQUIS EVELY WITH MATHEUS LOPES

Associate editor

JESSICA BERBEY

Editor

ARIANNA TURTURRO

Group editor

BEN ABERNATHY

We keep going back to our origins.

IT...
... it stings--

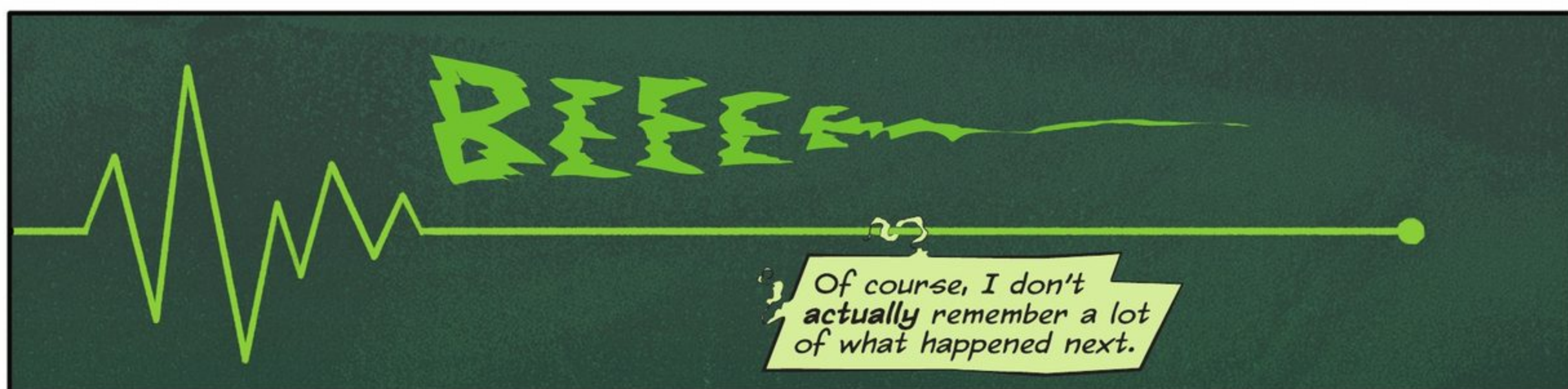
In all the sciences, as soon as we think a debate has been settled--

--we find new evidence that upsets everything we thought we knew.

It's as if the past itself is always shifting beneath our feet.

WWE

Leading us to reexamine our own memories.





The next thing I remember is **Bella**.

PAMI!

PAMI!



I'VE GOT TO CALL AN AMBULANCE--

I try to tell her not to worry, but nothing comes out



I'm hanging in the balance between two ways of being.

One human...

... the other something **FAR OLDER.**



I DREAMED I
WAS A TREE.

MAKING ENERGY
FROM STARLIGHT.

DRAWING WATER
FROM STONE.

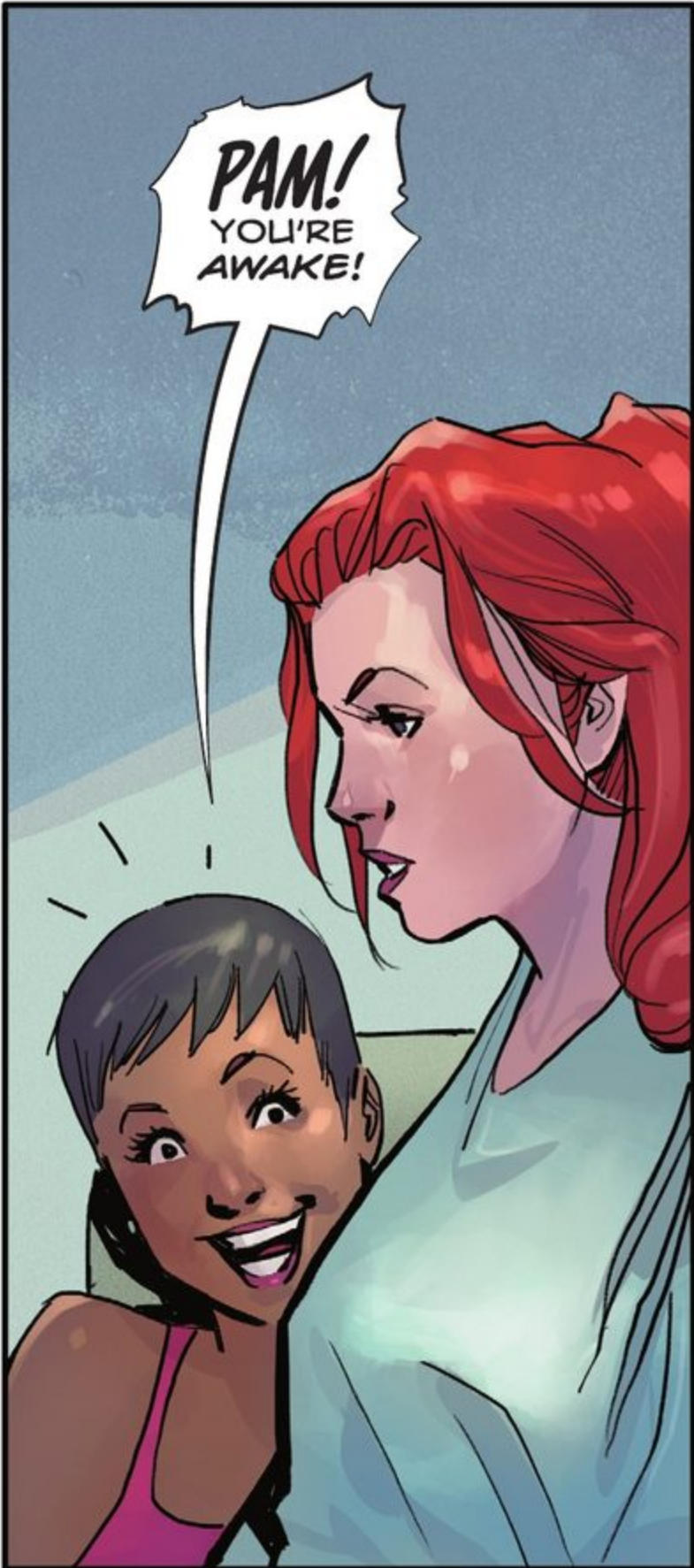
IT WAS
PEACEFUL.

Quiet.



Then the noise started.

Ugh!



PAM!
YOU'RE
AWAKE!



WHAT'S
WRONG?

HEAR
WHAT?

Can't...
CAN'T YOU
HEAR IT?

THE
EARTH. IT'S...
it's screaming...



...IT'S SO
LOUD--

HEY!
SHE
NEEDS
HELP!



OKAY, SWEETIE,
LET'S JUST
CALM DOWN--

M-MAKE IT
STOP--!
I CAN'T
STAND
IT--

It was as if
that ancient
tree was
being torn
out of the
ground--

--and I
could hear
every single
root fiber
snapping
and
breaking.

They gave
me some
kind of
sedative.

It didn't work.
My body had
changed
too much.

For a few hours,
I pretended to
be unconscious.

But I was
awake. I felt
like I'd never
sleep again.

Nnghh--

When
everyone
was finally
gone and
Bella was
asleep,
I made
my move.

I had to
make the
screaming
stop...

...even if it meant
leaving behind
everything
I cared about.

I just
started
walking.

I knew I had to go
toward the sound
of the screaming in
order to stop it.



So I
went
east.



I didn't get
as hungry as
I did before,
or as cold.

Old injuries
started healing.
My eyesight
got better.



So I felt
NO FEAR.

Only a
sense of
urgency.



I traveled for
a week or more
before I found it.

The source of
the screaming.

GOTHAM.

City of industry and
commerce, squatting
on one of the most
important watersheds
on the entire continent.



To my
newborn
eyes,
it didn't
even
look like
a city.

It looked
like an
**OPEN
WOUND.**



I felt a kind of
fury I'd never
experienced before.

This was what it all
amounted to, all our
so-called progress.

A parasitic
superstructure
made of steel
and glass,
bloated with
the blood
of the Earth.





Now I understood why the great tree I saw in my dreams had given me these powers.

The Earth had drawn me to Gotham to be her champion.

ECO TERRORIST THREATENS GOTHAM

Release Bio-Toxin If Environmental Demands Unmet.



I started dressing the part.

PUT YOUR HANDS UP! AND KEEP 'EM UP!

I started thinking of the law as an obstacle to justice.

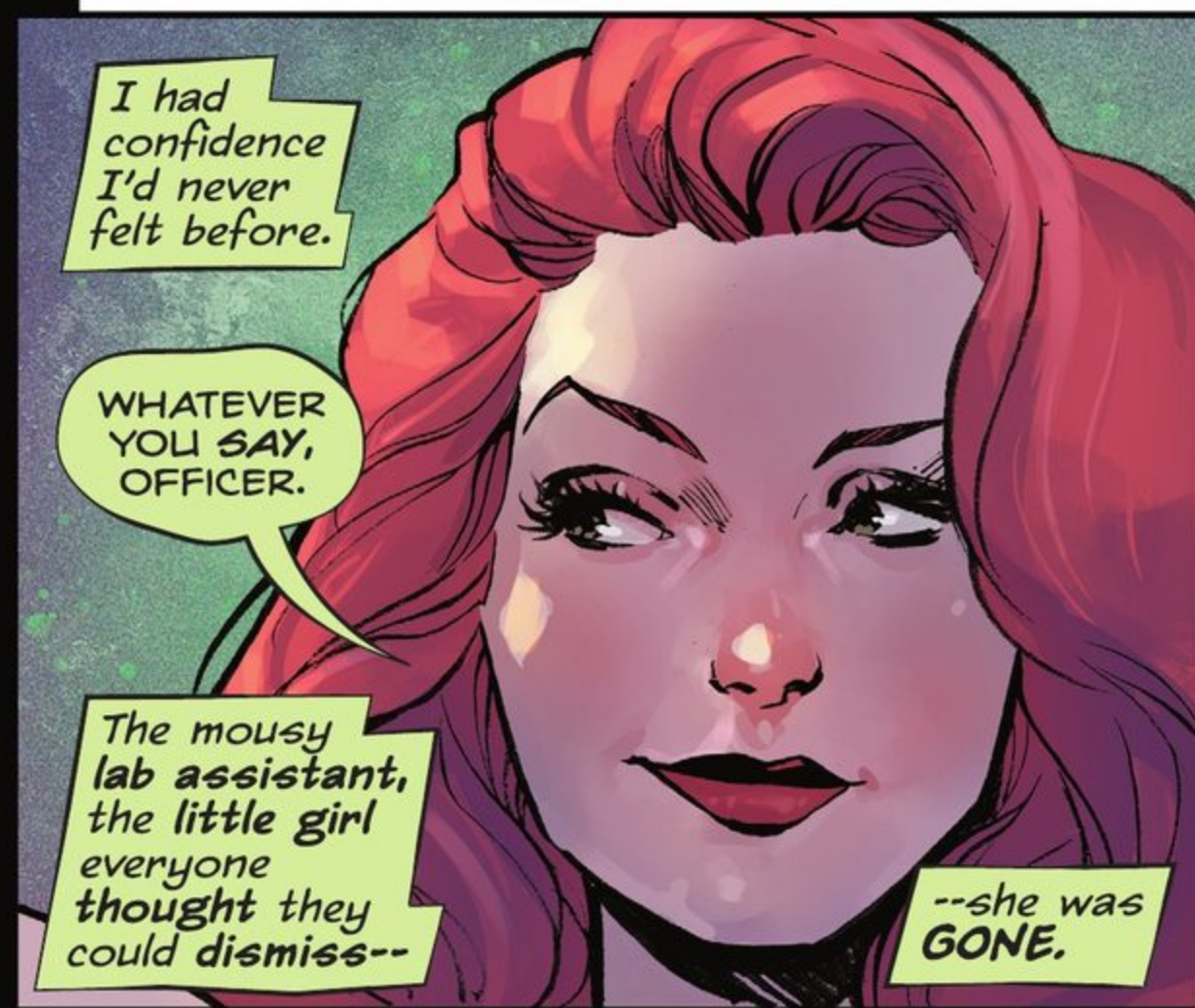


I had confidence I'd never felt before.

WHATEVER YOU SAY, OFFICER.

The mousy lab assistant, the little girl everyone thought they could dismiss--

--she was GONE.



It was nice at first.

HHNG--

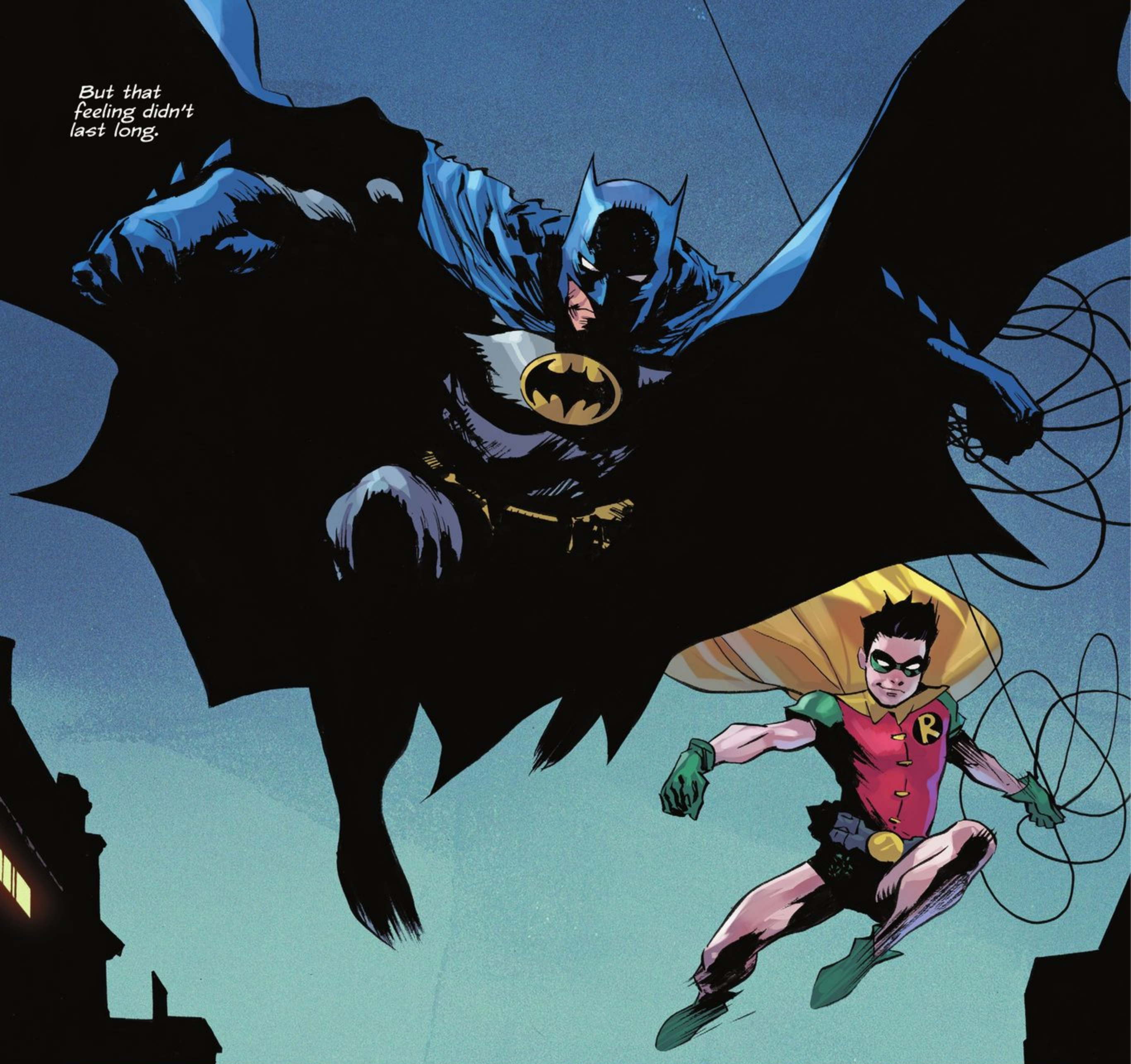
Lh-oh.

NOT SO TOUGH WHEN YOU CAN'T JUST SHOOT PEOPLE, ARE YOU?

To be equal parts wanted and feared.



But that feeling didn't last long.



There were other costumed fanatics in Gotham.

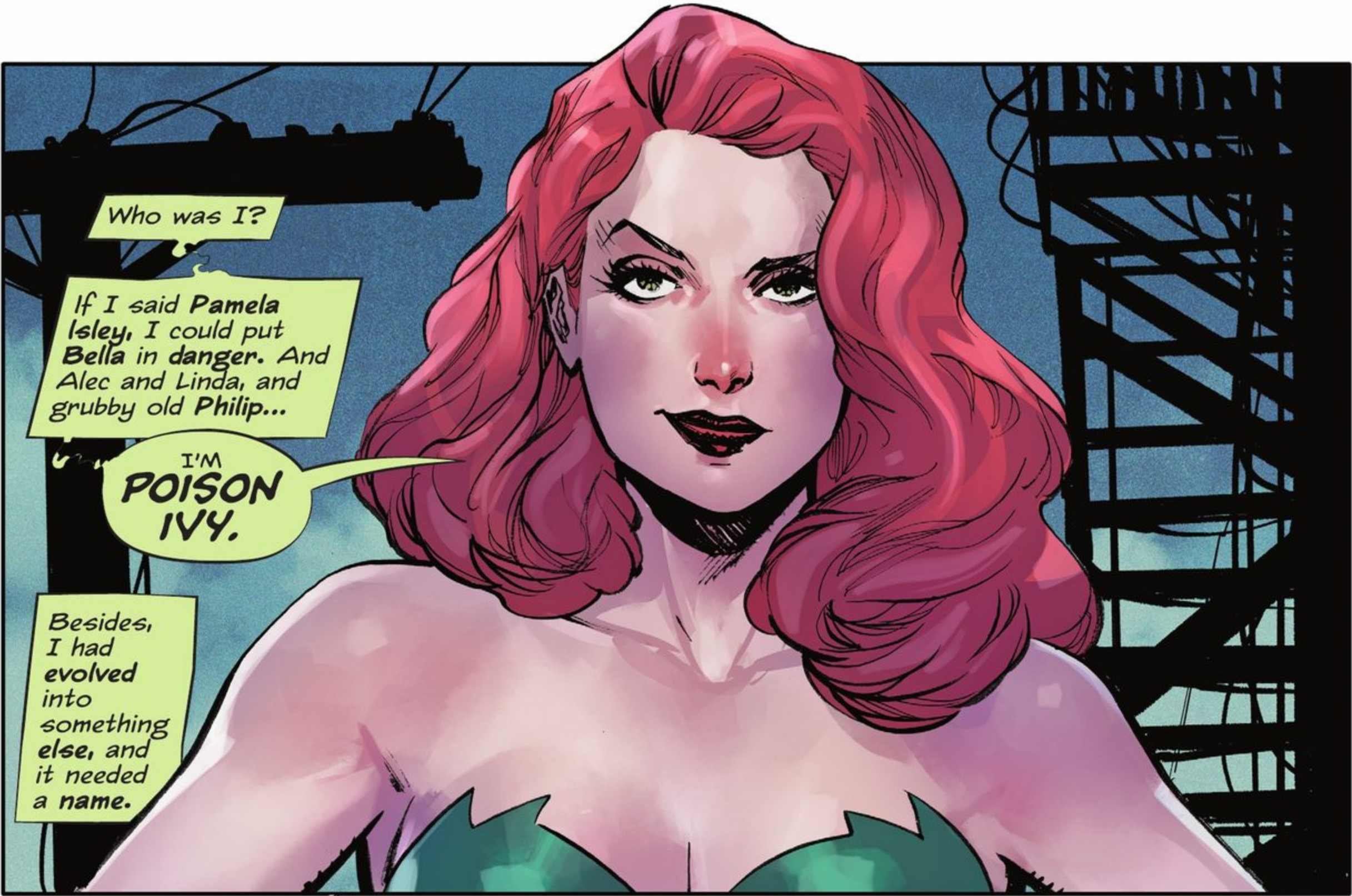


WHO ARE YOU?

I'M... I'M...



It was a reasonable question.



Who was I?

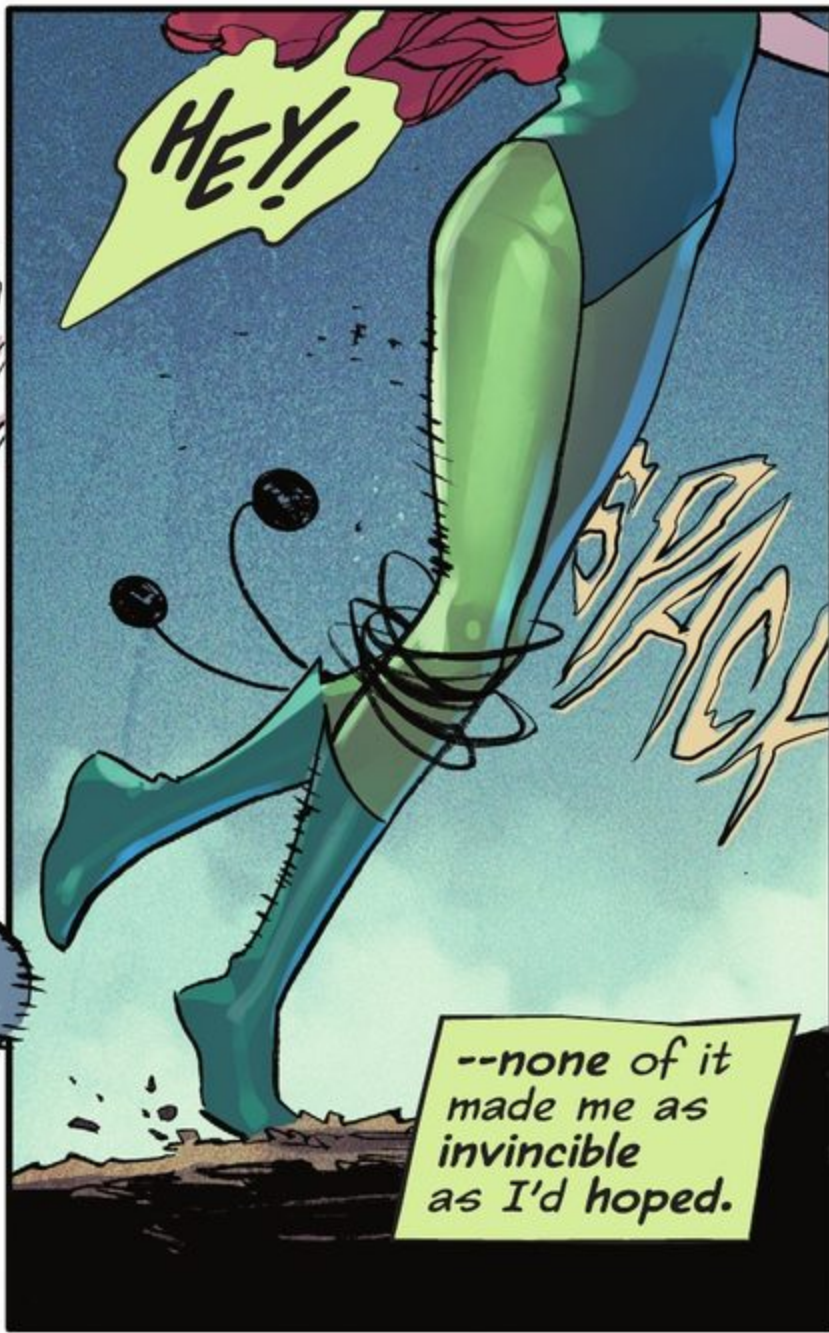
If I said **Pamela Isley**, I could put **Bella** in danger. And Alec and Linda, and grubby old **Philip**...

I'M **POISON IVY**.

Besides, I had evolved into something else, and it needed a name.



But the name, the costume, the powers--

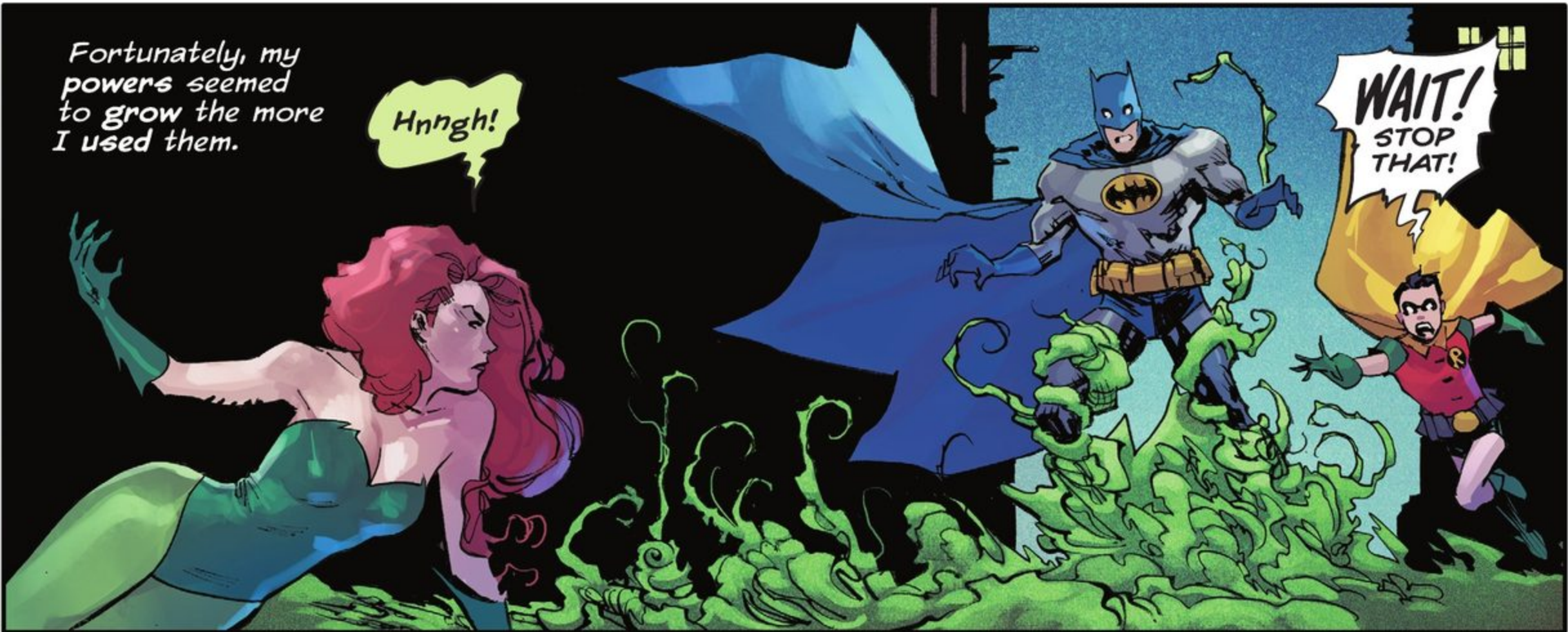


HEY!

--none of it made me as invincible as I'd hoped.



Ugh!



Fortunately, my powers seemed to grow the more I used them.

Hnngh!

WAIT!
STOP THAT!



I almost escaped, that first time.

Ow.

I still think about it.



About how different things would have been if I had gotten away.

FREEZE!
HANDS UP, NOW!



AND DON'T EVEN TRY YOUR LITTLE PLANT PHEROMONE ROUTINE AGAIN.

WE'VE BEEN WARNED.

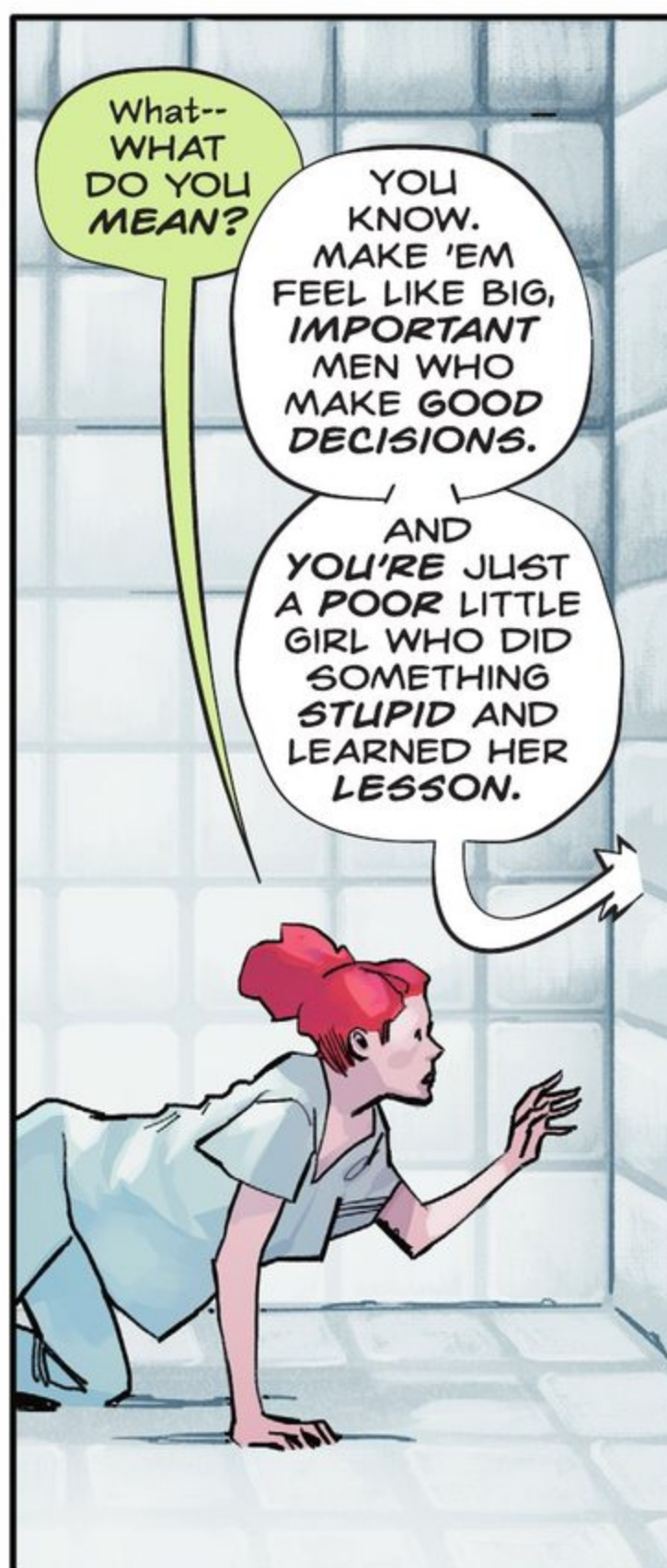
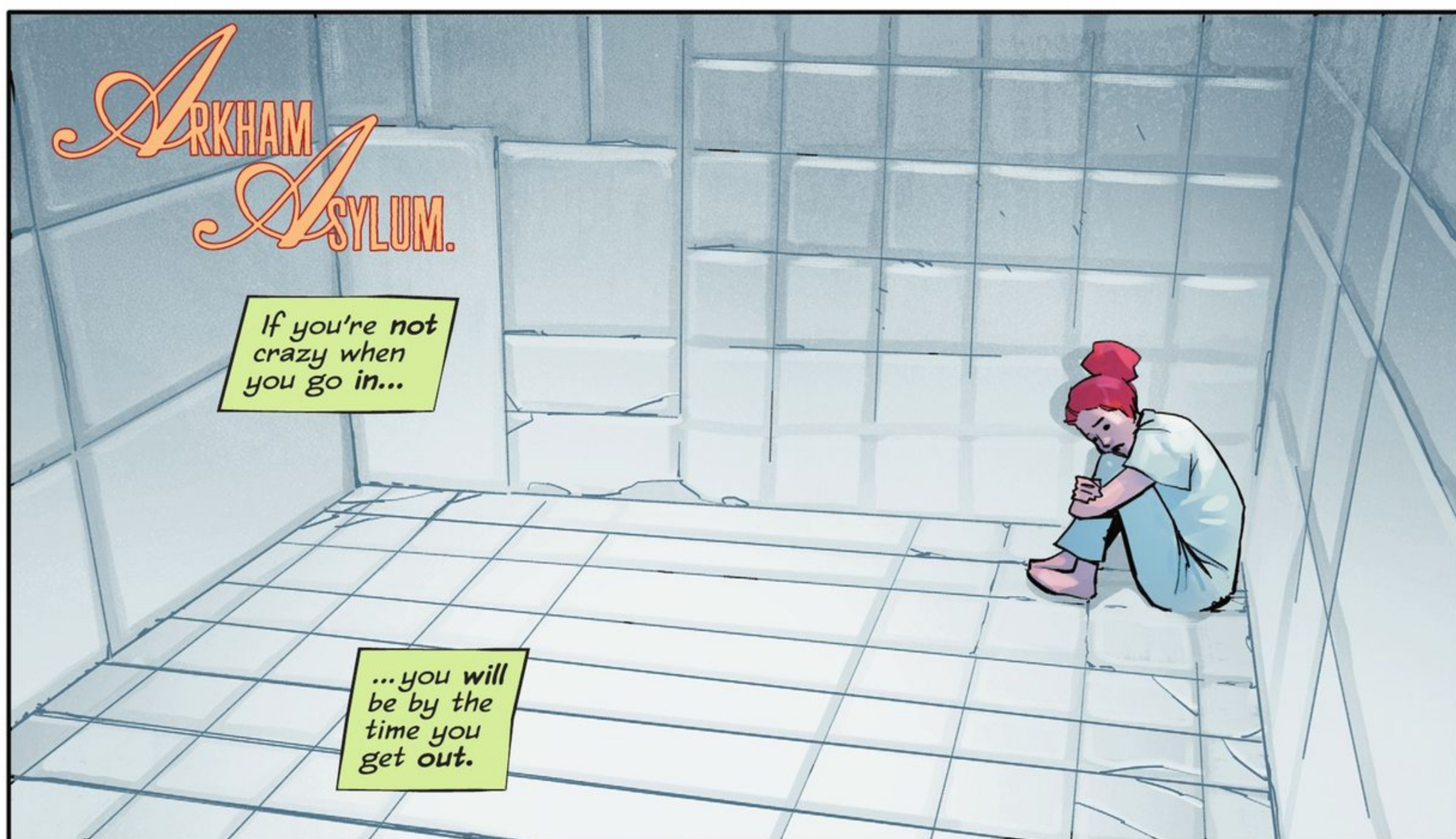


If I'd known where they were going to take me, I would have tried harder.



But I was overconfident.

By now, you can probably tell it's a theme.





*Friendships
are easy
to forge in
a place like
Arkham.*

SHOOOM

They protect
you from
the horror.



I KNOW
WHAT I
DID WAS
WRONG.

I CAN'T
EXCUSE IT,
BUT I CAN
TRY TO
EXPLAIN
IT.

GROWING UP, MY DAD
WAS NEVER REALLY
EMOTIONALLY
AVAILABLE.

I GUESS I'VE
ALWAYS WANTED
A STRONG MAN
IN MY LIFE. FOR
GUIDANCE. FOR
PROTECTION.

SOMEONE
LIKE YOU.

THAT'S
WHY I GOT SO...
SO FIXATED ON
BATMAN.

I WAS JUST
TRYING TO GET
HIS ATTENTION,
ANY WAY I
COULD.

EVEN IF
IT MEANT
DOING BAD
THINGS.



*That first time,
they actually
bought my
little routine.*

*Sent me
home with a
prescription
and mandatory
check-ins with
a caseworker.*



*Unfortunately,
it wouldn't work
the next time I
was committed.*

*Or the time
after that.*



CREAK

Violet...

*But at least I
made one friend.*



*And one
ENEMY.*

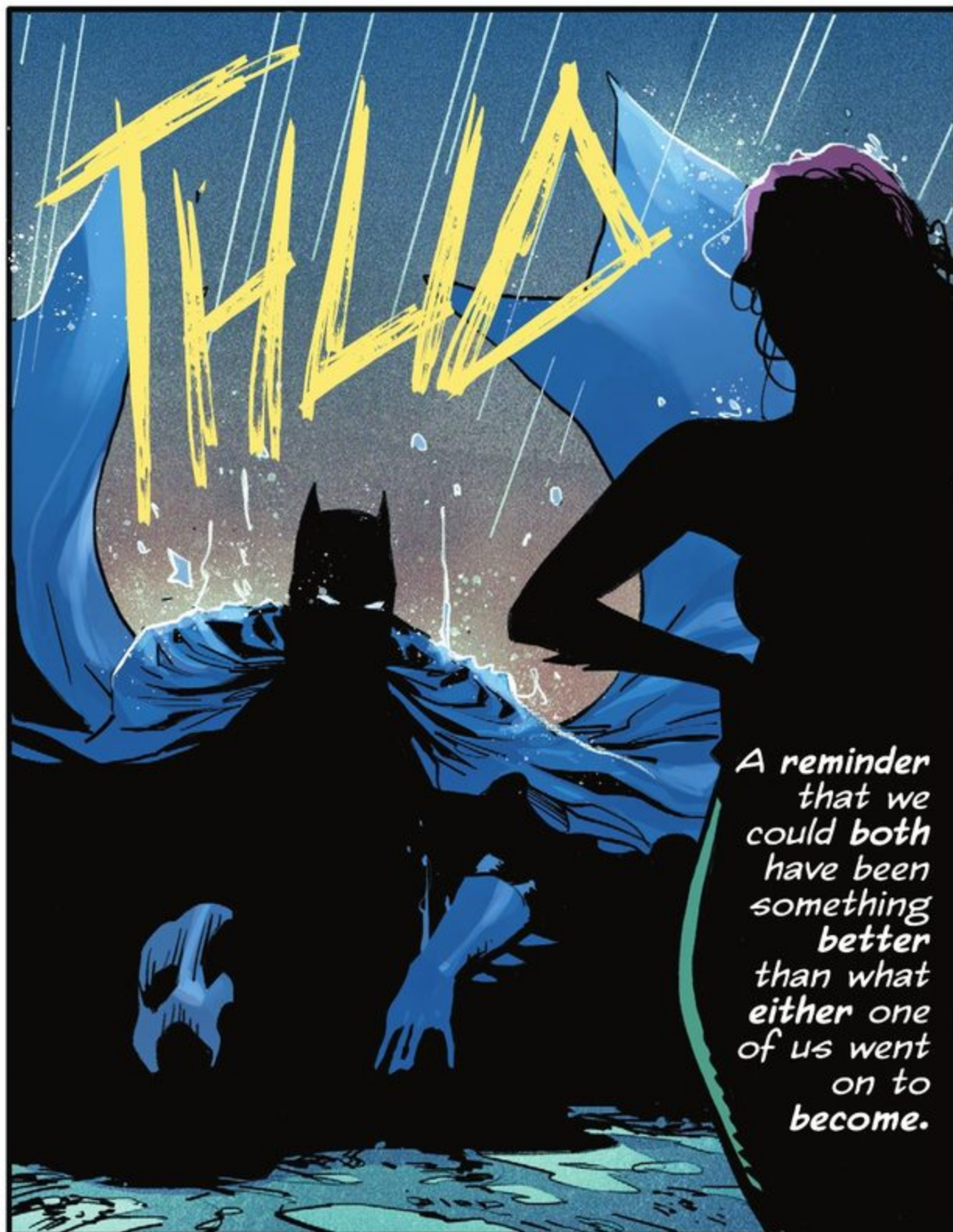


A FEW NIGHTS LATER.

Since another confrontation was inevitable, I decided to force it.



It's a bitter-sweet memory now.



A reminder that we could both have been something better than what either one of us went on to become.



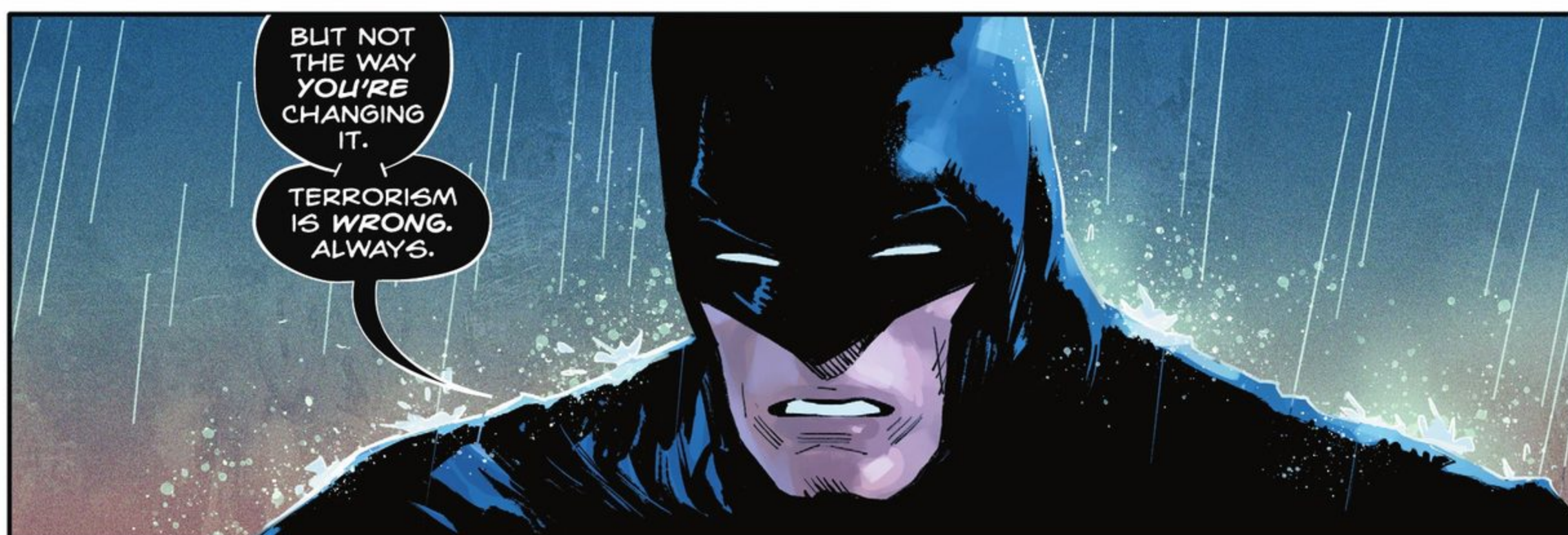
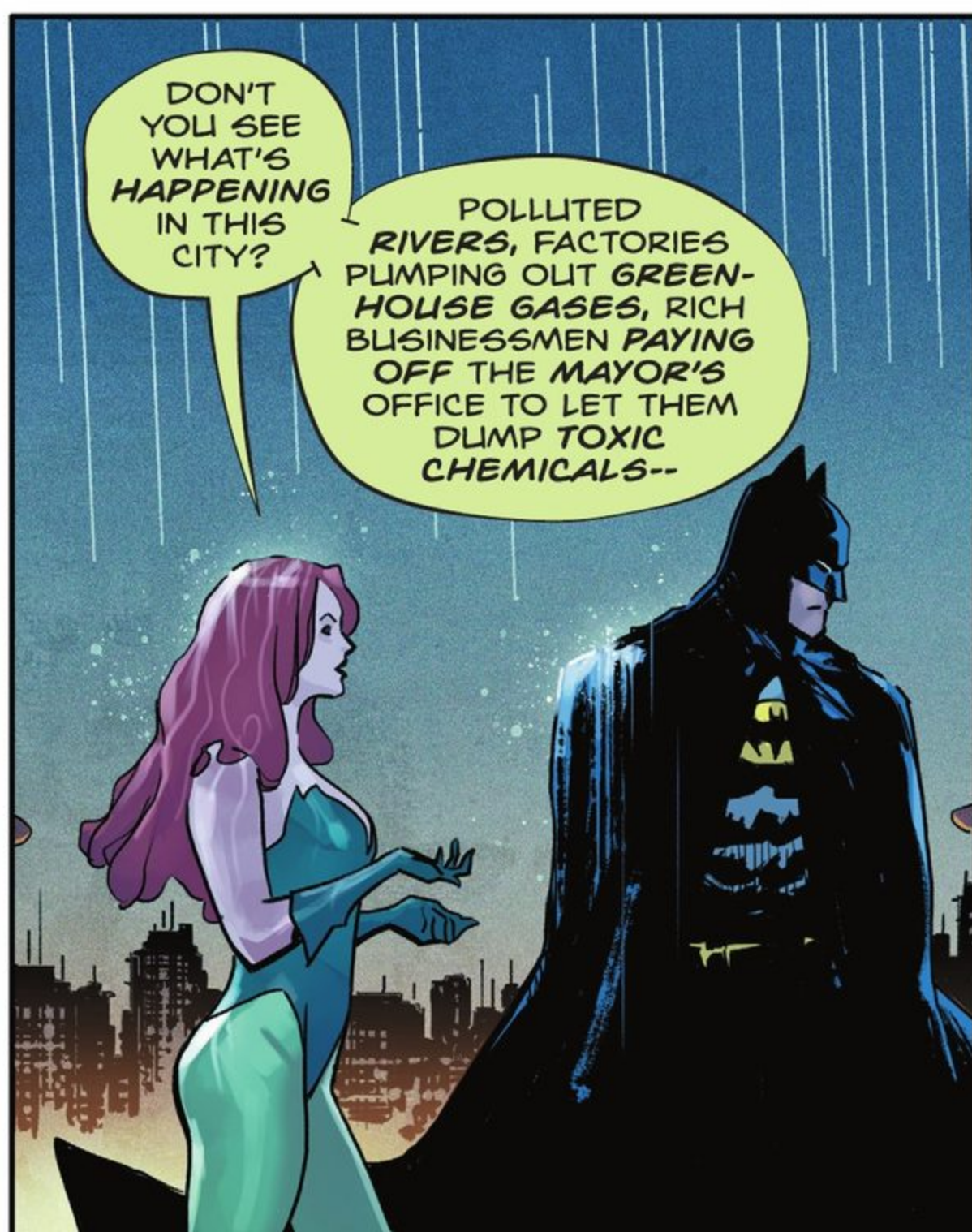
So. THEY LET YOU GO.

I WAS PERSUASIVE.



I'M NOT SO EASY TO PERSUADE. YOU KNOW I'LL HAVE TO WATCH YOU.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO ANYTHING.





THEN HELP ME PROTECT THEM FROM *THEMSELVES*. THEY'RE THE ONES WHO WILL *SUFFER* WHEN THE EARTH BECOMES UNINHABITABLE.

HELP ME HELP YOUR CITY. WE CAN DO SO MUCH MORE AS ALLIES THAN AS ENEMIES.

IT'S TRUE. YOU ARE PERSUASI--



...Wait.

YOU'RE USING PLANT PHEROMONES.

What?

THE SAME CHEMICALS YOU DEPLOYED AGAINST THOSE POLICE OFFICERS.



I HAVEN'T USED ANYTHING ON YOU. I'M JUST TRYING TO HAVE A CONVERSATION.

I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THIS WAS A TRAP.



TRAP?! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

YOU JUST DON'T WANT TO ADMIT THAT YOU KNOW YOU'RE FIGHTING FOR THE WRONG SIDE!

YOU CAN'T BE TRUSTED. THAT MAKES YOU A LIABILITY, NOT AN ALLY.



THIS CONVERSATION IS OVER.

DON'T TRY TO CONTACT ME AGAIN.

That's the thing about heroes, right? They need someone else to blame for their own doubts.

Their own desires.

They can't bear to be honest with themselves.

So they blame us.



THE BAD GUYS.



I don't know why I'm remembering this now.



Maybe because, at the end of your life, you're confronted with all your wasted chances.

INY! PAM!
PLEASE OPEN YOUR EYES!

EYES!
EYES!

And chances.
And chances.
And chances.
And chances.
And chances.
And chances.
And chances.
And chances.
And chances.
And chances.



Somehow, death always takes longer than I think it will.

Ick.



Life is FEROCIOUS.

HNN!

It will try to save you long after you've given up on yourself.



It conspires
against you
with the animal
part of your
brain that will
do anything
to protect
your friends.

GET...
BEHIND
ME.

Across
millennia,
across the
geological
ages of
the Earth,
against
odds that
seem
impossible,
it endures.

NEXT: MIMESIS

FROM ROBIN TO NIGHTWING, DICK GRAYSON LEAPT INTO THE LIGHT AND BATTLED FOR BLÜDHAVEN'S HEART...BE THERE FOR WHAT COMES NEXT.

CELEBRATE WITH THESE VARIANT COVERS!



MAIN COVER BY
BRUNO REDONDO



VARIANT COVER BY
JAMAL CAMPBELL



VARIANT COVER BY
SERG ACUÑA



ARTIST SPOTLIGHT COVER BY
JIM LEE

NIGHTWING

#113/LEGACY #300

WRITTEN BY
TOM TAYLOR

WITH A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION BY
MARV WOLFMAN

ART BY
DANIELE DI NICUOLO
AND BRUNO REDONDO

VARIANT COVER BY DAN MORA



APRIL

HOUSE OF BRAINIAC



THE NEXT PHASE OF THE DC UNIVERSE BEGINS
WITH AN ALL-OUT INVASION OF METROPOLIS!

APRIL

- **Part 1:** *Action Comics* #1064
- **Tie-In:** *Green Lantern* #10
- **Part 2:** *Superman* #13
- **Tie-In:** *Power Girl* #8
- **Part 2.5:** *Superman: House of Brainiac Special*

MAY

- **Part 3:** *Action Comics* #1065
- **Tie-In:** *Green Lantern* #11
- **Part 4:** *Superman* #14
- **Tie-In:** *Power Girl* #9

JUNE

- **Part 5:** *Action Comics* #1066
- **Tie-In:** *Green Lantern* #12
- **Tie-In:** *Power Girl* #10
- **Part 6:** *Superman* #15



SUPERMAN: HOUSE OF BRAINIAC SPECIAL
MAIN COVER BY JAMAL CAMPBELL

DC COMICS MARIE JAVINS VP – Editor-in-Chief JIM LEE President, Publisher & Chief Creative Officer ANNE DePIES Senior VP & General Manager LARRY BERRY VP – Brand Design & Creative Services DON FALLETTI VP – Manufacturing & Production LAWRENCE GANEM VP – Editorial Programming & Talent Strategy NICK J. NAPOLITANO VP – Publishing & Business Operations NANCY SPEARS VP – Sales & Marketing

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